

17 Fine I should of kept, and other
sufficient being deposited, that.

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An Inaugural Dissertation

on

Cynanche Stricklandii
presented to the
Medical Faculty

and

Board of Trustees
of the

University of Pennsylvania
in compliance with their regulations
respecting Candidates for the Degree

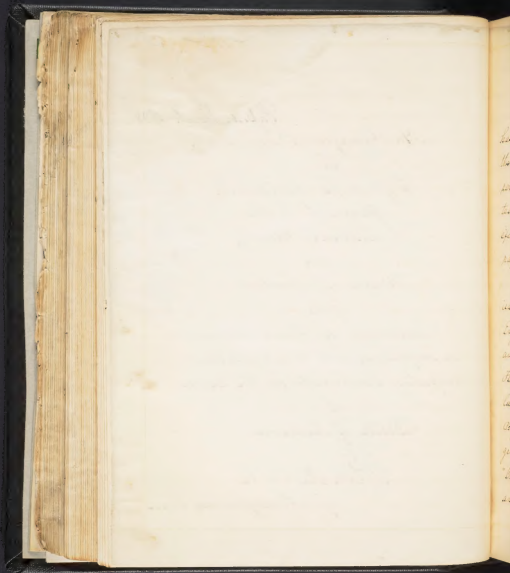
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Doctor of Medicine

by

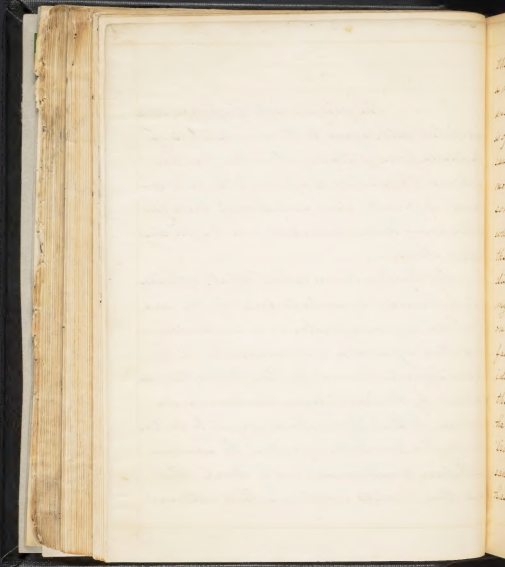
Wesley Clarke

of Pennsylvania, 1828.



The great diversity of opinion, which has existed with regard to the nomenclature of the disease, forming the subject of this Essay, has rendered the selection of a proper title for it extremely difficult. That, such diversity has in fact existed among Authors, is evident from the following rapid sketch. —

By Boerhaave, it was called "*Affectio oethopneica*"; by Walsbiam, "*Cynanche Stridula*"; by Bore and Engelstrom, "*angina suffocativa*"; by Cullen, Johnson and others, "*Cynanche, or Angina Stridulosa*"; by Rhone, "*Suffocatio stridula*"; by Storr, "*Morbus strangulatorius*"; by Mischke, "*Angina Membranacea, sive Solypna*"; by Dick, "*Cynanche Saryngica*"; by Winkler, "*Morbus lenticularis infantum*"; by Leussler, "*Oethopnea Membranacea*"; and by Frank, Albers and others, "*Strachetis infantum*". These instances I



think, will suffice to show that the choice, even of
a name for the disease, is calculated to embarrass
and perplex. - Conceiving however that the name
is of minor importance in a dissertation, in which
causes and symptoms are to be described, I have
not hesitated to choose that, which is the most
common among Physicians of our own Country, and
which it appears to me conveys the best idea of
the leading feature, as well as the seat of the
disease. I cannot however avoid the expression of
my assent to the opinion of an interesting writer
on this point. His remarks that it is the common
fault of all these names, or epithets, to convey an
idea of one part, or symptom of the disease, and, not
the whole disease itself. To avoid this error, or as
he terms it, inconvenience, he employs the term
'Group,' as one in general use, and as one which
cannot lead to erroneous views, inasmuch as it
has no definite signification in any language.



To this term I have no objection therefore, in this view
of it, though it may be questioned, whether or not the
opinion of Clynne respecting its etymology, may not
render it objectionable, on the same grounds as those
which have led to the abandonment of others. She
derives it from a word employed in Scotland, viz. *scap*,
and this it is conjectured is but an alteration of the
French word *scapier*.

It is not my intention however to dwell
longer on this preliminary section of the subject. A
few words only will be necessary on the history of the
disease, and the individuals, most liable to its at-
tacks, before I proceed to notice more important
particulars. — It has been considered as peculiarly
one of modern ages, but the records of ancient Medi-
cine warrant us in the belief, that tho' the disease
may be more prevalent now, it was not unknown
long before Dr Boerhaave published his valuable tra-
ctate in 1755. — By a late French writer it is asserted *wh*

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that Baillou, who lived in the middle of the 15th century, gave the first description of it. The same writer expresses his opinion, that it has always existed, but that its frequency of development is owing to the Physical education of children, subjected to the causes that produce it. It is a disease which is usually confined to children from the time they are weaned, till the 9th or 10th year, and it is said that the earlier they are taken from the breast, the more liable they are to it. The robust and hearty are more frequently attacked, than the weak and unhealthy, and those once affected, are very liable to return of it, of equal force and violence. It often attacks several children of the same family, and this no doubt has given rise to the idea of its being a contagious disease, but it is owing to their being similarly exposed to its exciting causes. It has several times appeared as an Epidemic, in different parts of our country. — Tho' properly considered as the



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1841. To the Hon. the Secretary of the Navy, Washington, D.C.
 Sir,
 I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th inst., in relation to the proposed purchase of the schooner "Enterprise" for the service of the Navy. I am very glad to hear that the Government is disposed to purchase the vessel, and I am sure that the purchase will be a very profitable one. I have the honor to be, Sir, your obedient servant,
 J. M. Smith, Secretary of the Navy.



The effect of the various causes which have been
mentioned, upon the human mind, is to produce a
state of mind which is characterized by a
certain degree of excitement, and a
certain degree of depression. This state of mind
is the result of the various causes which have been
mentioned, and it is the result of the various causes
which have been mentioned. It is the result of the
various causes which have been mentioned, and it is
the result of the various causes which have been
mentioned. It is the result of the various causes
which have been mentioned, and it is the result of
the various causes which have been mentioned.

It is the result of the various causes which have been mentioned.

Cold or a reduced temperature is the principal agent in the production of the disease.





[illegible]



[illegible]



to which I have been so long a stranger, be
distinguished in the various social and political
views of the people, and in the various
views of the nation. But the most important of these
views are the views of the people, and the views of
the nation. And these views are not only
views of the nation, but also views of the people.
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The first of these is the fact that the
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We now come to a consideration of the

Debitum

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operation of emetics was greatly improved, the indi-
viduals in question, and will often of itself, prove
curative by determining to the source. The patient
should be kept in the bath 10 or 15 minutes or even
longer as may be done, and removed from it. The
operation to emetics on the source, but they are to
be given the smaller part of one patient is futile.
For it is an acknowledged fact, that children can-
not very much resist emetics, for the large quantity
of water they shall use, but they relatively
lose the operation of powerful medicine better, and
in some diseases even more, than adults, under other
adults dose. - Fluctuations have been also highly re-
commended, the by some they are prepared at the
earliest period. When applied the child is to be
placed in a warm bath, and the water should be
changed as often as possible, and the patient should be
kept in the bath for 10 or 15 minutes or even longer
as may be done, and removed from it. The operation
to emetics on the source, but they are to be given the
smaller part of one patient is futile. For it is an
acknowledged fact, that children cannot very much
resist emetics, for the large quantity of water they
shall use, but they relatively lose the operation of
powerful medicine better, and in some diseases even
more, than adults, under other adults dose. -



[illegible]

The next remedy I succeed to speak of is Calomel
Not a little has been said of this; & some authorities



it is common in many cases to find it even
more the same. They accordingly resort to it to put
and continue its irritation till they have sub-
stantiated the disease. They give it in doses of from 2 to
10 grains frequently, increasing these degrees up a constant
irritation about the intestinal canal absorbing,
absorbing from the vessels, and so on, substituting a new
action in place of the ancient one, then some
years ago, when they were young chil-
dren and continued till there was a change of
some kind, mostly about the middle of it
having taken off just now when the thicker
parts of the blood, now when the membrane is
action is formed but by now the last membrane is
exhibiting it, is the reaction of the tissue of this
country: after having prepared the system, by bleed-
ing and similar they give it in doses of from 6 to
10 grains, repeating according to circumstances. They
both doses they extend it, of course on the bowels, and





[illegible]



It would be a conclusion to the medical question, as to the influence of the operation in the case of the case. The danger of which may be exhibited with advantage, after the inflammatory action has subsided to allow the system to recover. As the operation is in these various instances we have no more case to give. I believe the disease. All therefore that remains for us now, is to consider the propriety of the operation in these cases, considering when such has been used. From the little benefit derived from it in most cases, and from the appearances presented on dissection we can rarely achieve a success. But when we consider the case with which the operation can be performed and that it is often our last resource, and that it has in a few instances, proved successful we should give our friends hope, stating at the same time to the friends the chance of success, that we may not be censured in case we fail. Where the obstruction is owing to mucus in the Trachea or Bronchus the operation may succeed but it is uncertain.



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ally fails, from effusions having taken place in the Lungs before it is thought expedient to resort to it. When a membrane is formed in the Trachea, we shall have little to expect, unless it is loosely attached, and even here, tho' we might remove the upper part, the lower being fluid would remain, and equally impede respiration and in extracting a part, great danger, and in some instances death has occurred, from both the natural and artificial opening being closed at the same time. After examining a number of authors on the subject, as well as numerous journals, I have been able to find but five cases in which the operation has succeeded, out of the many that have been performed, two of these were by M^r Chevallier, one by P. Hume of Coventry, one by Breston of Tours, and one by Mr. Andree in 1782. I would much prefer therefore a close adherence to the medical treatment already laid down, than a dependence on the aid to be furnished by any surgical operation.



It may not however be improper in closing this outline of the names, nature, causes, and cure of *Cynanche Tonsillaris*, to state, that it is a disease, which in many instances demands all that can be rendered by the Practitioner of Medicine, the Surgeon, and the Pharmaceutist, to secure its successful and happy issue; and it is one too, which after all these have been skilfully, promptly, energetically, and vigorously employed, will baffle their united efforts, and sweep down the dearest objects of earthly love, to an untimely grave.

I have now, Gentlemen brought my essay to a conclusion, and am fully sensible of its many imperfections. I have not offered to your notice any new views on the subject, or proposed any new mode of practice: for this my inexperience disqualifies me; and I now submit it to your consideration, with the highest confidence in your liberality.

Wetmar Augustus Clarke.

